The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

Rideat & pulſet laſciva decentius Ætas. Hor.

From *Tueſday December* 19. to *Thurſday December* 21. 1710.

From my own Apartment, December 20.

IT would be a good Appendix to *the Art of Living and Dying*, if any one would write *the Art of growing Old*, and teach Men to reſign their Pretenſions to the Pleaſures and Gallantries of Youth, in Proportion to the Alteration they find in themſelves by the Approach of Age and Infirmities. The Infirmities of this Stage of Life would be much fewer, if we did not affect thoſe which attend the more vigorous and active Part of our Days; but inſtead of ſtudying to be wiſer, or being contented with our preſent Follies, the Ambition of many of us is alſo to be the ſame Sort of Fools we formerly have been. I have often argued, as I am a profeſſed Lover of Women, that our Sex grows old with a much worſe Grace than the other does; and have ever been of Opinion, that there are more well pleaſed old Women than old Men. I thought it a good Reaſon for this, that the Ambition of the Fair Sex being confined to advantagious Marriages, or ſhining in the Eyes of Men, their Parts were over ſooner, and conſequently the Errors in the Performance of them. The Converſation of this Evening has not convinced me of the contrary; for one or two Fop-Women ſhall not make a Ballance for the Crowds of Coxcombs among our ſelves, diverſified according to the different Purſuits of Pleaſure and Buſineſs.

Returning Home this Evening a little before my uſual Hour, I ſcarce had ſeated my ſelf in my Eaſy Chair, ſtirred the Fire, and ſtroaked my Cat, but I heard ſome Body come rumbling up Stairs. I ſaw my Door opened, and a humane Figure advancing towards me, ſo fantaſtically put together, 'twas ſome Minutes before I diſcovered it to be my old and intimate Friend *Sam Truſty*. Immediately I roſe up, and placed him in my own Seat, a Compliment I pay to few. The firſt Thing he uttered was, *Iſaac*, Fetch me a Cup of your Cherry Brandy before you offer to ask any Queſtion. He drunk a luſty Draught, ſat ſilent for ſome Time, and at laſt broke out: I am come (quoth he) to inſult thee for an old fantaſtick Dotard as thou art in ever defending the Women. I have this Evening viſited two Widows, who are now in that State I have often heard you call an After-life: I ſuppoſe you mean by it, an Exiſtence which grows out of paſt Entertainments, and is an untimely Delight in the Satisfactions which they once ſet their Hearts upon too much to be ever able to relinquiſh. Have but Patience (continued he) till I give you a ſuccinct Account of my Ladies, and of this Night's Adventure. They are much of an Age, but very different in their Characters: The one of them, with all the Advances which Years have made upon her, goes on in a certain Romantick Road of Love and Friendſhip which ſhe fell into in her Teens: The other has transferred the amorous Paſſions of her firſt Years to the Love of Cronies, Petts, and Favourites, with which ſhe is always ſurrounded. But the Genius of each of them will beſt appear by the Account of what happened to me at their Houſes. About Five this Afternoon, being tired with Study, the Weather inviting, and Time lying a little upon my Hands, I reſolved, at the Inſtigation of my evil Genius, to viſit them, their Husbands having been our Contemporaries. This I thought I could do without much Trouble, for both live in the very next Street. I went firſt to my Lady *Camomile*, and the Butler, who had lived long in the Family, and ſeen me often in his Maſter's Time, uſhered me very civilly into the Parlour, and told me, though my Lady had given ſtrict Orders to be denied, he was ſure I might be admitted, and bid the black Boy acquaint his Lady, that I was to wait upon her. In the Window lay two Letters, one broke open, the other freſh ſealed with a Wafer: The firſt directed to the divine *Coſmelia*, the ſecond to the charming *Lucinda*; but both, by the indented Characters, appeared to have been writ by very unſteady Hands. Such uncommon Addreſſes encreaſed my Curioſity, and put me upon asking my old Friend the Butler, If he knew who thoſe Perſons were? Very well, ſays he. This is from Mrs. *Furbiſh* to my Lady, an old Schoolfellow and great Crony of her Ladiſhip's, and this the Anſwer. I enquired in what County ſhe lived? Oh dear! ſays he, but juſt by in the Neighbourhood. Why ſhe was here all this Morning, and that Letter came and was anſwered within theſe two Hours. They have taken an odd Fancy, you muſt know, to call one another hard Names, but for all that they love one another hugely. By this Time the Boy returned with his Lady's humble Service to me, deſiring I would excuſe her, for ſhe could not poſſibly ſee me nor any Body elſe, for it was Opera Night.

Methinks, ſays I, ſuch innocent Folly as two old Women's Courtſhip to each other ſhould rather make you merry than put you out of Humour. Peace, good *Iſaac*, ſays he, no Interruption I beſeech you. I got ſoon to Mrs. *Feeble*'s, ſhe that was formerly *Betty Friſk*, you muſt needs remember her, *Tom Feeble* of *Brazen Noſe* fell in Love with her for her fine Dancing: Well, Mrs. *Urſula*, without further Ceremony, carries me directly up to her Miſtreſs's Chamber, where I found her environed by Four of the moſt miſchievous Animals that can ever infeſt a Family: An old Shock Dog with one Eye, a Monkey chained to one Side of the Chimney, a great grey Squirrel to the other, and a Parrot waddling in the Mid-

Middle of the Room. However for a while all was in a profound Tranquility. Upon the Mantle-Tree, for I am a pretty curious Obſerver, ſtood a Pot of Lambetive Electuary, with a Stick of Liquoriſh, and near it a Phyal of Roſe Water, and Powder of Tutty. Upon the Table lay a Pipe filled with Betony and Colt's-foot, a Roll of Wax Candle, a Silver Spitting Pot, and a *Seville* Orange. The Lady was placed in a large Wicker Chair, and her Feet wrapped up in Flannel, ſupported by Cuſhions; and in this Attitude (would you believe it, *Iſaac*) was ſhe reading a Romance with Spectacles on. The firſt Compliments over, as ſhe was induſtriouſly endeavouring to enter upon Converſation, a violent Fit of Coughing ſeized her. This awakened Shock, and in a trice the whole Room was in an Uproar; for the Dog barked, the Squirrel ſqueal'd, the Monkey chatter'd, the Parrot ſcreamed, and *Urſula*, to appeaſe them, was more clamorous than all the reſt. You *Iſaac*, who know how any harſh Noiſe affects my Head, may gueſs what I ſuffered from the hideous Din of theſe diſcordant Sounds. At length all was appeaſed, and Quiet reſtored: A Chair was drawn for me, where I was no ſooner ſeated, but the Parrot fixed his Horny Beak, as ſharp as a Pair of Sheers, in one of my Heels, juſt above the Shooe. I ſprung from the Place with an unuſual Agility, and ſo being within the Monkey's Reach, he ſnatches off my new Bob Wig, and throws it upon two Apples that were roaſting by a ſullen Sea-Coal Fire. I was nimble enough to ſave it from any further Damage than ſingeing the Foretop. I put in on, and compoſing my ſelf as well as I could, I drew my Chair towards the other Side of the Chimney. The good Lady, as ſoon as ſhe had recovered Breath, employed it in making a Thouſand Apologies, and with great Eloquence, and a numerous Train of Words, lamented my Misforune.

In the Middle of her Harangue, I felt ſomething ſcratching near my Knee, and feeling what it ſhould be, found the Squirrel had got into my Coat Pocket. As I endeavoured to remove him from his Burrow, he made his Teeth meet thro' the fleſhy Part of my Fore-Finger. This gave me an unexpreſſible Pain. The *Hungary* Water was immediately brought to bath it, and Gold-Beaters Skin applied to ſtop the Blood. The Lady renewed her Excuſes, but being now out of all Patience, I abruptly took my Leave, and hobling down Stairs with heedleſs Haſt, I ſet my Foot full in a Pail of Water, and down we came to the Bottom together. Here my Friend concluded his Narrative, and with a compoſed Countenance, I began to make him Compliments of Condolance; but he ſtarted from his Chair, and ſaid, *Iſaac*, you may ſpare your Speeches, I expect no Reply: When I told you this I knew you would laugh at me: but the next Woman that makes me ridiculous ſhall be a young one.

Advertiſements.

AT the GREAT WHEAT-SHEAF painted upon a Copper Plate, next the Bell-Savage-Inn on Ludgate-hill, are ſold all Sorts of rich Foreign Silk, with Gold and Silver Brocades: Likewiſe plain and flower'd Velvets for Gowns and Petticoats, and Coach Linings; with all Sorts of Silk Morning-Gowns, for Blank Lottery Tickets, at as high a Price as any Perſon ſhall give for them, and the aboveſaid Goods as cheap as for Specie.

THis is to give Notice, That there is an extraordinary Remedy for the STONE and STRANGURY, which lately cured a Gentleman that had for three Days a total Suppreſſion of Urine, who in half an Hour after he had taken it made above a Gallon of Water. It likewiſe brought away thirteen Stones from one, and nine from another, (who both live near Temple-Bar). To be had only of Mr. Rogers at the Sun in Fleet-ſtreet, and of Mr. Aylmer at the Three Pidgeons in Cornhil, Bookſellers, at 5 s. the Paper, with printed Directions.

*** This Day is publiſhed, The Poll of the Livery-Men of the City of London, at the late Election for Members of Parliament; begun Monday October 9. 1710, and ended the Saturday following: Shewing, who each Perſon polled for, the Names of thoſe that did not poll, and the Objections at the Scrutiny. Compared with the Liſts delivered in upon Oath to the Rt. Hon. Sir Samuel Garrard, Bar. Lord-Mayor. The Whole being a compleat Liſt of the Livery. Printed for J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall, 1710.

WHereas a Gold Ring was taken up in Katherine-ſtreet on Monday laſt. If the Right Owner will come to Mrs. Hill's at the Sword and Croſs next the Savoy-gate in the Strand, deſcribing the Marks, and paying the Charge, they may have it again.

THis Day, being the 21ſt Inſtant, will be opened, by the Original and Beneficial Society in Swan-Yard, againſt Somerſet-houſe in the Strand, Two Offices of Inſurance on Births, for Two Months, &c. the one at 3 s. and the other at 1 s. 6 d. each Claim. Thoſe that have entered in the former Offices for 3 Months, may enter the ſame for 2 Months. Note, Undeniable Security is already given, as by Propoſals may be ſeen and had at the Office grats, where Attendance is given.

A Freehold Farm in Minſter in the Iſle of Shepey in Kent (late Sir John Robinſon's) conſiſting of about 50 Acres of Arable and Marſh Land, is to be ſold. Particulars may be had at Mr. Forſter's, an Attorney, on Snow-hill.

FOR Sale by the Candle, to Morrow the 22d Inſtant, at Lloyd's Coffee-houſe in Lombard ſtreet, at Four in the Afternoon preciſely (only one Cask in a Lot) 60 Pipes of new excellent Canary Wines, neat and entire, of the very laſt Vintage, racy, and of a delicate Flavour, Imported by the Martin-Galley, Capt. Martin, now landing, and will be put in two Cellars in Buttolph Wharf, Gateway, between London-bridge and Billingſgate: Alſo 20 Pipes and 7 Hhds. of new excellent Canry Florence Wine of the very laſt Vintage, freſh, deep, bright, and of the right Flavour, neat, an entire Parcel, juſt landed, now in a Cellar in the Gateway of Sommer's-Key next Billingſgate, and near London-bridge. All the aforeſaid new Canaries and new Florence are to be taſted this Day from 8 to 1, and from 2 to 5, and all to Morrow, till the Time of Sale. To be ſold by Tho. Tomkins, Broker, in Seething-lane.

FOR Sale by the Candle, on Friday the 29th Inſtant, at Lloyd's Coffee-houſe in Lombard-ſtreet, at Four in the Afternoon, about 60 Hhds. and 12 Tierces of new excellent French Obrion Clarets of the very laſt Vintage, conſiſting of the beſt Qualities, the entire Cargo of a French Prize lately arrived in the River, and will be landed this Week. Catalogues thereof ſhall be timely diſperſed by Tho. Tomkins, Broker, in Seething-lane, between Tower-ſtreet and Crouched-friars.

FOR Sale by the Candle, on Wedneſday the 10th of January next, at Lloyd's Coffee-houſe in Lombard-ſtreet, at 4 in the Afternoon, about 36 Tuns of new excellent French (Prize) Claret, freſh, deep, bright, and of a moſt curious Flavour, of the beſt Growths, and of the very laſt Vintage; 5 Puncheons of French (Prize) Brandy, 4 Tuns of new French (Prize) White Wine, extraordinary good; 28 Barrels of new ſuperfine Pruants, and 22 Cheſts of very good Soap; the entire Cargoes of two French Prizes brought into Dartmouth by Capt. Daniel Naſtell of Guernzey, now in the Cuſtody of Mr. Tho. Plumley, Merchant, in Dartmouth aforeſaid: And there ſhall be expoſed to View and Taſt the aforementioned Wines, Brandy, Pruants, and Soap, from to Morrow the 22d Inſtant till the Time of Sale. Catalogues ſhall be timely diſperſed. To be ſold by Tho. Tomkins, Broker, in Seething-lane.

A Moſt incomparable Paſt for the Hands, far exceeding any Thing ever yet in Print; it makes them moſt delicately white, ſlick, and plump, fortifies them againſt the Sharpneſs of the Air, or Scorching of the Fire; a Hand cannot be ſo ſpoiled but the conſtant Uſe of this Paſt will recover it. Sold only at Mr. Allcroft's, Toy-ſhop, over-againſt the Royal-Exchange, at 1 s. 6 d. the Pot, with Directions.

††† There are juſt publiſhed, from the Office at the Wheat-Sheaf over-againſt Tom's Coffee-houſe in Ruſſel-ſtreet, Covent-garden, Propoſals for the Benefit of the Clergy, and Widows of Clergymen, by a Joint Contribution, whereby a Clergyman, by a Contribution of 10 s. (as in the Propoſals is at large expreſſed) may be entituled to the Sum of 750 l. on his being inſtituted and inducted into a Rectory or Vicaridge in England or Ireland, or ſent as a Miſſionary by the Corporation of the Society for propagating the Goſpel in Foreign Parts; or by a Contribution of 5 s. may be entitled to the Sum of 375 l. or by a Contribution of 2 s. 6 d. to the Sum of 187 l. 10 s. in the Caſes aforeſaid, with other Advantages for the Widows and Children of the Contributors. Propoſals at large may be had at the Office above-mentioned.

AT the Golden Lamb and Green Door in Hatton-Garden, between Holborn and the Globe-Tavern, lives Doctor Souza, a Phyſician, who with the Bleſſing of God cures the Gout, Rheumatiſm, Dropſie, Black and Yellow Jaundice, and other Diſtempers.

AT the Flower de-Luce near Lion's-Inn, behind St. Clement's, this Day will be opened Two new Books for inſuring a Weekly Dividend, one of 1000 l. if full, the other of 500 l. if full, on the Birth of a Child that ſhall live 24 Hours. The firſt 200 to ſtay 5 Weeks from their Entrance, the 2d 6, the 3d 7, the 4th 8, and all after 9 Weeks, and ſo to continue. The firſt Subſcribers can't pay above 2 or 3 Weeks Contribution at moſt, and the laſt not above 9; with many other Advantages, which in the Propoſals to be had at the Office will more fully appear, and convince every one that this is the moſt beneficial Society ever yet opened. At the ſame Place on the 12th Inſtant was opened two Books for Marriage, inſuring 1000 l. or a Dividend of all the 10 s. the Subſcribers pay in the firſt, and 500 l. or a Dividend of all the 5 s. the Subſcribers pay in the ſecond; wherein all that enter in the firſt 150 are allowed to marry in two Months from the Date of their Policies, the 2d 150 in 3, the 3d 150 in 4 Months, and ſo to continue, which fills apace, they being convenient, and anſwering the Time of thoſe that have inſured in other Offices for 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7 Months. Propoſals for all may be had at the Office.

Sold by *John Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall*; where Advertiſements are taken in.